the chief signal officer shows that the work of the corps on its military side has been deteriorating.

The Postal Service.

The report of the postmaster-general not only exhibits the operation of the department for the fiscal year but contains many valuable suggestions for improvement and extension of the service, which are comextension of the service, which are commended to your attention. No other branch of the government has so closely a contact with the daily life of the people. Almost every one uses the service it offers and every benefit that in all private employment covers from exceptional faithfulness and covers from exceptional that both in and out of the classified service great benefit would accrue from the adoption of some system by which the officers would receive the destinction and out of the classified service great benefit would accrue from the adoption of some system by which the officers would receive the destinction and benefit that in all private employment and covers from the adoption of some system by which the officers would receive the destinction and benefit that in all private employment and the covers from the adoption of some system by which the officers would receive the destinction and benefit that in all private employment. hour gained in the transmission of the great commercial mails is an actual and pos-itive value that only those engaged in trade can understand. The sav-ing of one day in the transmission of the mails between San Francisco and New York, which has recently been accomplished, is an incident worthy of mention, plished, is an incident worthy of mention. The plan suggested of a supervision of the postoffices in separate districts that shall involve instraction and suggestion and a rating of efficiency of the postmasters would, I have no doubt, greatly improve the service.

ecessity exists for the erection of a building for the joint use of the de-partment and the city postoffice. The department and the city postolice. The de-partment was partially relieved renting outside quarters for a part of its force, but it is again overcrowded. The building used by the city office never was fit for the purcose and is now inadequate and unwhole some. The unsatisfactory condition of the laws relating to the transmission through the mails of lottery advertisements and remittances is clearly stated by the postmas-ter-general and his suggestion as to its adment should have your favorable con-

The Pension Problem.

The law provides a pension for every so dier who was mustered into the service of the United States during the civil war and line of duty. Two of the three neessary facts, viz.: Muster and disability are usually susin the service, is often difficult, and in many deserving cases impossible to establish. That very many of those who endured the hardships of our most bloody and ardnous campaigns are now disabled from diseases that had a real, not traceable, origin in service, we do not doubt. Besides these are another class composed of men, many of whom served an enlistment of three full years and of re-enlisted veterans who served a fourth year of service, who es caped the casualties of battle and the assaults of disease, who are always ready for any detail, who were in the very battle line of their command and were mustered out in sound health, and have since the close of the war, while fighting with the same indomitable and independent spirit the contests of civil life, been overcome by disease or casualty. I am not unaware that the pension rate already involves a very large annual expenditure; neither am I de-terred by that fact from recommending that congress grant a pension to such hon-orably discharged sailors and soldiers of the civil war as having rendered substan-tial service during the war are now depend-ent upon their own labor for a maintenance and by disease or casualty are incapacitated for earning it. Many of the men who would be included in this form of relief are now dependent upon the public aid and it does not, in my judgment, consist with the na-tional honor that they shall continue to subsist upon the local relief given indiscriminately to paupers instead of upon a special and generous provision of the nation, they served so gallantly and unself hly. Our people will, I am sure, very generally approve such legislation, and I am equally sure that the survivors of the union army and pay will feel a grateful serve of raise. and navy will feel a grateful sense of relief when this worthy and suffering class of their comrades are fairly cared for.

some of these the secretary of the interior has called attention. It is gratifying to be It is gratifying to b able to state that by the adoption of new and better methods in the war department the calls of the pension office for informa-tion as to the military and hospital record of pension claimants are now properly answered and the injurious and vexation delays that have heretofore occurred ar entirely avoided. This will greatly facilitate the adjustment of all pending claims.

Needs of the Civil Service.

On the fourth day of March last, the civil service commission had but a single member. The vacancies were filled on the seventh day of May, and since then the commissioners have been industriously, though with an adequate force, engaged in executing the law. They were assured that a cordial support would be given them in a faithful and impartial enforcement of the statute and of the rules and regulations adopted in and for it. Hereto fore the book of eligibles has been closed to every one except as certifications wer made upon the requisition of the appoint ing officers. This secrecy was the source o much suspicion and of many charges of favoritism in the administration of the law

What is secret is arrays is open can be judged.

The commission, with the full approval of its members, has now opened the list of eligibles to the public. The eligible list for the public in the public is the public in the public is the public in the pu classified postoffices and custom houses a now publicly posted in the respective office as are also the certification for appoint ments. The purpose of the civil service law was absolutely to exclude any other cosideration in connection with appointmen under it than that of merit as tested by th examinations. The business proceeds upon the theory that both the examining board and the appointing officers are absolute ignorant as to the political views and asset ciations of all persons on the civil servilist. It is not too much to say, however that some recent congressional investigations have somewhat shaken public confidence in the impartiality of the selection The reform of the civ ke no safe or satisfactory as ance until the present law and its equa dministration are well established in the confidence of the people. It will be my deasure as it is my duty to see that the law s executed with fairness and impartiality vance until th visions have been fraudu appointing officers, our re ot suggest the repeal of a in its administration, a view of the matter and erity that is not affected on that the party to which

we belong is for the time in power.

My predecessor on the 4th day of January, 1889, by an executive order to take effect
March 15, brought the railway mail service March 15, brought the railway mail service under the operation of the civil service law Provision was made that the order should take effect sooner in any state where an eligible list was sooner obtained. On the 11th day of March, Mr. Lyman, then the only member of the commission, reported to me in writing that it would not be possible to have the list of eligibles ready before May 1, and requested that the taking effect May 1, and requested that the taking effect of the order be postponed until that time, which was done, subject to the same proviswhich was upon the original order as one contained in the original order as when the eligible list was sooner obtained, the pressure for consideration of the sountry. Having no legislature of its own, either municipal or expenditures, but it is a mistake of the term to make this term describe a policy that withholds its expenditure the subject of local import. Our whole the regulation of those concerns that are the subject of local import. Our whole the regulation of those concerns that are the subject of local import. Our whole the regulation of those concerns that are the subject of local import. Our whole the regulation of these term to make this term describe a policy that withholds its expenditures, but it is a mistake of economy in our national devocate of economy in our national mission be allowed. As the duty of appointment is devolved by the constitution or by the law, and the appointing officers are held to a high responsibility in its exercise, the growth of the country and the consequent increase of the civil list have magnified this question of the executive disproportionately. It cannot be denied, however, that is increased often to the point of actual distress by the sudden and excessive demands that are made upon incoming administration for removals and appointments; but, on

the other hand, it is not truer that incumbency is a conclusive argument for a continuance in office. Impartiality, moderate fidelity to public duty and a good attainment in the discharge of it must be added before the argument is completed. When the holders of administration offices so conduct themselves as to convince just political op-ponents that no party consideration or bias affects in any way the discharge of their public duties we can more easily stay the demand for removals.

others would receive the destinction and benefit that in all private employment comes from exceptional faithfulness and efficiency in the performance of duty. I have suggested to the heads of the executive departments that they consider whether a record ought not to be kept in each bureau of all those employments that are covered by the terms of "faithfulness" and "efficiency," and a rating made showing the relative merits of clerks of each class, this

relative merits of clerks of each class, this rating to be regarded as a test of merit in making promotions.

I have also suggested to the postmastergeneral that he can, upon the basis of the reports to the department and of frequent inspections, indicate the relative merit of postmasters of each class. They will be appropriately indicated by the official register and report of the department. That a great stimulus would thus be given to the whole service I do not doubt, and such a record would be the best defense against removals from office. removals from office.

The Aumission of the States. The advent of four new states, South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana and Washington, into the union under the constitution in the same month, and the admittance of their duly chosen representatives to our national congress at the same session is an vent as unexampled as it is interesting event as unexampled as it is interesting. The certification of votes cast and of the constitutions adopted in each of the states was filed with me as required by the eighth section of the act of Feb. 22, 1885, by the governors of the said territories respectively. Having after a careful examination found that the several constitutions and governments were republican in form and not renument to the constitution of the ter and disability are usually sua-not repugnant to the constitution of the ceptible of easy proof, but the third, origin United States; that all the provisions of the United States; that all the provisions of the act of congress had been complied with and that a majority of votes cast in each of said proposed states was in favor of adopting the constitution submitted therein, I did so proclaim by a separate proclamation as to each, as to North Dakota and South Dakota on Saturday, Nov. 2, as to Montana on Friday, Nov. 4, and as to Washington on Monday Nov. 11

day, Nov. 11. Each of these states has within its bounds resources, the development of which will employ the energies and yield comfortable subsistence to a great population. The smallest of these new states, Washington, stands twelfth, and the largest, Montana, third among forty-two in area. The people of these states are already well trained, intelligent and patriotic American citizens having common interests and sympathies with those of the older states, and common interests and sympathies with those of the older states, and common purpose to defend the integrity and uphold the honor of the

National Aids to Education

The interest of the general government in the education of the people found an early expression not only in the thoughtful and sometimes warning utterances of our ablest statesmen, but in liberal appropriations from the common resources for the support of education in the new states. No one will deny that it is of the greatest national concern that those who hold the ultimate control of all public affairs should have the necessary intelligence wisely to direct and determine them. National aid to education has heretofore taken the form of land grants, and that form of the constitutional power of congress to promote the education of such measures with its well defined constitutional power as will secure to all our people a free exercise of the right of suffrage and every other civil right under the constitution and laws of the United States. No evil, however deplorable, can justify the assumption either on the part of the executive or of congress of powers not granted, but both will be highly blamable if the powers granted are not wisely but firmly used to correct these evils. The power to take the whole direction and control of the election of members of the house of reprethe education of the people found an early when this worthy and suffering class of their comrades are fairly cared for.

There are some manifest in qualities in existing laws that should be remedied. To when the form is changed to that of a direct vision of these elections is now provided for the country is a suffering class of power of congress to promote the education of people is not seriously questioned. I do not think it can be successfully questioned is the country is government. A partial and qualified supervision of these elections is now provided for vision of these elections is now provided for the country is an an investment of the country of \$250,000.

The assessed valuation of the country is \$6,000,000 and the tax levy of Missoula, the vision of these elections is now provided for vision of these elections is now provided for the country of \$250,000. when the form is changed to that of a direct gift of money from the public treasury, such aid should be as it always has been suggested by some exceptional conditions. The sudden emancipation of the slaves, the bestowal of the suffrage which soon followed, and the inpairment of the ability of the states where those new citizens were chiefly found to be adequately provided with educational to be adequately provided with educational facilities, presented not only exceptional facilities, presented not only exceptional but unexampled conditions, and that the situation has been much ameliorated there is no doubt. The ability and interest of the states have happily increased, but a great work remains to be done, and I think the general government should lend its aid. As the suggestion of national grants in aid of education grows chiefly out of conditions and needs of the emancipated slave and his descendants, the relief should as far as posdescendants, the relief should, as far as possible, while necessarily proceeding upon some general lines, be applied to the need that suggested it. It is essential, if much good is to be accomplished, that the sympathy and active interest of the people of the states should be enlisted and that the methods adopted should be such as to stimulate and not supplant local taxation for school purposes. As one congress cannot bind a succeeding one in such a case, and as the effect must in some degree be experimental, I recommend that any appropriation for the I recommend that any appropriation for the purpose be so limited in annual amount, and as to the time over which it is to extend as will on the one hand, give local school authorities opportunity to make best use of the first year's allowance, and on the other deliver them from temptation to unduly postpone the assumption of the whole burden themselves.

To Protect Ratiway Employes. The attention of the interstate commerc commission has been called to the urgent need of congressional legislation for the bet ter protection of the lives and limbs of those engaged in operating the great interstate freight lines of the country, and espe cially of yardmen and brakemen. A petition signed by nearly 10,000 brakemen was presented to this commission asking that steps be taken to bring about the use of automatic brakes and couplers on freight cars. At a meeting of state railroad commissioners and their accredited representatives held at Washington in March last upon the invi-tation of the interstate commerce commission a resolution—was unanimously adopted urging the committee—to consider what can be done to prevent the loss of—life and limb in coupling and uncoupling freight cars and in handling the brakes of such cars. Dur-ing the year ending June 30, 1888, over 2,000 railroad employes were killed in the service

the year ending June 20, 1889, on the 17th day of August last I appointed Rudolph H. Herring, of New York; Samuel M. Gray, of Rhode Island, and Frederick P. Sterns, of Rhode Island, and Frederick P. Sterns, of Massachusetts, three eminent sanitary engineers, to examine and report upon the system of sewerage existing in the District of Columbia. Their report, which is not yet completed, will be in due course submitted to congress. The report of the commissioners of the district is herewith transmitted, and the attention of congress called to the suggestions contained therein.

to the suggestions contained therein The proposition to observe the four hun-dredth anniversary of the discovery of America by the opening of a world's fair or expsoition in some of our great cities will presented for the consideration of con-ess. The value and interest of such an exposition may well claim the promotion of the general government.

The Colored Man and the Ballot, The colored people did not intrude themelves upon us, they were brought here in chains, and held in the communities where code. Happily for both races they are now than in Missoula county, the most valuable norance and poverty which was our shame. education and the acquisition of property. They have, as a people, shown themselves to be friendly and faithful towards the white race under temptation of tremendous strength. They have their representatives in the national cemeteries where a grateful government has gathered the ashes of those who died in its defense. They have furnished to our regular army regiments that have well as a great and populous city with its abundant supply of pure drinking water, great force of water power, the favored spot for successful fruit growing, a mild and salutrious climate, and only 3,000 feet above sea level, which places it in an altitude which never knows bodily pains and aches, this perfect paradise. One can do no more than recommend it as a most suitable or a great and populous city with its abundant supply of pure drinking water, great force of water power, the favored spot for successful fruit growing, a mild and salutrious climate, and only 3,000 feet above sea level, which places it in an altitude which never knows bodily pains and aches, this perfect paradise. have won great praise from their commanding officers, for courage, soldierly qualities and for fidelity to the enlistment oath. In civil life they are the toilers of their commulife they are the toilers of their communities. making their full contribution to the widening streams of prosperity which the communities are receiving. Their sudden withdrawal
would stop production and bring disorder
in the household, and generally they do not
desire to quit their homes and their employers resent the interference of the emigration agents who seek to stimulate such a ceiving. Their sudden withdrawal would stop production and bring disorder in the household, and generally they do not desire to quit their homes and their employers resent the interference of the emigration agents who seek to stimulate such a desire. But notwithstanding all this, in many parts of the country where the colored population is large the people of that race are by various devices deprived of any effective exercise of their political rights. The wrong does not expend itself upon those whose votes are suppressed. Every constituency in the Union is wronged. It has been the hope of every patriot that a sense of justice and respect for the law is the one and only gateway of the Rocky has been the hope of every patriot that a sense of justice and respect for the law would work a gradual cure of these flagrant sense of justice and respect for the law would work a gradual cure of these flagrant vices. Surely no one supposed that the present can be accepted as a permanent condition. If it is said that these communities work out this problem for themselves, we have a right to ask whether they are at work upon it? Do they suggest any question? When and under what conditions is the black man to have a fee ballot? When is he in fact have those full civil rights which have so long been his in law? When is that equality of influence which our form of government was intended to secure to the electors to be restored? This generation should courageously force these grave questions and not leave them as a heritage of wo to the next. The consultation should proceed with candor, calmness and great patience upon the lines of justice and humanity-not of prejudice and cruelty. No question in our country can be at rest except on the firm base of justice and humanity-not of prejudice and cruelty. No question in our country can be at rest except on the firm base of justice and humanity-not country can be at rest except on the firm base of justice and humanity-not of prejudice and cruelty. No question in our country can be at rest except on the firm base of justice and humanity-not of prejudice and cruelty. No question in our country can be at rest except on the firm base of justice and humanity-not of prejudice and cruelty. No question in our country can be at rest except on the firm base of justice and humanity-not of prejudice and cruelty. No question in our country can be at rest except on the firm base of justice and humanity-not of prejudice and cruelty. No question in our country can be at rest except on the firm base of justice and humanity-not of prejudice and cruelty. No question in our country can be at rest except on the firm base of justice and humanity-not of prejudice and cruelty. No question in our country can be at rest except on the firm base of justice and to the firm base of justice and of the law is a proposed to the by law, and in my opinion this law may be strengthened and extended to secure on the whole better results than can be obtained by a law taking all the processes of such elections into federal control. The colored man should be protected in all of his rela-tions to the federal government, whether as legitimate juror or witness in our courts, as an elector of members of congress or as a peaceful traveler on our interstate railways.

A Plea for Subsidies.

There is nothing more justly humiliating to the national pride, and nothing more hurtful to the national prosperity than the inferiority of our merchant marine compared with that of other nations whose general resources, wealth and sea coast lines do not suggest any reason for their supremacy on the sea. It was not always so, and our people are agreed, I think, that it shall not continue to be so. It is not possible in this communication to discuss the causes of the decay of our shipping interests or of the different methods by which it is proposed to restore them. The statement of a few well authenticated facts and some general suggestions as to legislation is all that is suggestions as to legislation is all that is practicable. That the great steamship innes sailing under the flags of England, France, Germany, Spain and Italy, and engaged in foreign commerce were promoted and have since been, and now are, liberally aided by grants of public money in one form or another is generally known. That the American lines of steamships have been abandoned by us to an unequal contest with the aided lines of other nations until they have been withdrawn, or in the few cases where they are still maintained, are subject the American lines of steamships have been abandoned by us to an unequal contest with the aided lines of other nations until they have been withdrawn, or in the few cases where they are still maintained, are subject to serious disadvantage, is a matter of common knowledge. The present situation is not that travelers and merchandise find Liverpool often a necessary intermediate point between New York and some of the South American capitals. The fact that some of the delegates from South American nations now in session at Washington reached our shores by reversing that line of travel is very conclusive of the need of such a conference and very suggestive as to the first and most necessary step in the direction of fuller and more beneficial intercourse with nations that are now our neighbors, not upon the lines of latitude, but upon the lines of established commercial intercourse. I recommend that such appropriations be made for ocean mail service in American steamships between our ports and those of Central and South America, China, Japan and the important islands in both of the great oceans as will be liberally remunerative for the service rendered as well as encourage the establishment, and in some fair degree equalize the chances of American steamship lines in the competitions which ing the year ending June 30, 1888, over 2,000 in jure 30, 1888, over 2,000 in jure 4. It is competent, I think, for congress to require uniformity in the construction of cars used in interstate commerce, and the use of improved safety appliances upon such trains. Time will be necessary to make the needed changes, but an earnest and intelligent beginning should be made at once. It is a reproach to our civilization that any class of American workmen should in the pursuit of a necessary and useful vocation be subjected to a peril of life and himb as great as that of a soldier in time of war.

Needs of the District.

The interest of the people of the District of Columbia should not be lost sight of in the pressure for consideration of measures affecting the whole country. Having no legislature of its own, either municipal or general, its people must look to congress for the regulation of those concerns that are

products of our farms and factories, the fuller and better employment of our me-chanics, which will result from a liberal promotion of our foreign commerce, insure the widest possible diffusion of benefits to all the states and to all our people. Everything is most propitious for the present inauguration of a liberal and progressive poicy upon this subject, and we should enter upon it with a subject.

upon it with promptness and decision.

The legislation which I have suggested, it is sincerely believed, will promote the peace and honor of our country and the prosperty and security of the people. I invoke the diligent and serious attention of congress to a consideration of these and such other measures as may be presented. measures as may be presented, having the same great end in view.

BENJAMIN F. HARRISON,

Washington, D. C., Dec. 3.

The matchless resources of this new state, a vast empire within itself, its mineral, agricultural, lumber and manufacturing they are now chiefly found by a cruel slave possibilities are nowhere more concentrated

free. They have, from a standpoint of ig- and yet sparsely settled area of the vast domain of this not theirs, made remarkable advances in peerless new state. Missoula, the Garden City, affords a natural site for a more than recommend it as a most suitable home for thousands who are seeking for

some new spot to cast their lot that will prove both profitable and pleasurable. To people in all walks and stages of life Missoula reaches out a welcome hand, particularly to those who have energy, vigor and enterprise, that this garden of the Rockies may at no distant day take front rank with the growing eities.

is the one and only gateway of the Rocky mountains in Montana; it will be a business

ublic schools, has many elegant business blocks and altogether the city of Missoula offers great inducements to young men who offers great inducements to young men who have an ambition to grow up in a new country, and who could not do better if they would take Horace Greely's advice and "go west," than to go to Missoula. It is well known that this young city will have a boom next spring. The Northern Pacific, which last year took thousands of people to Washington territory, will soon turn its attention to Missoula county, and a large immigration will be started there for all seeking new homes. To people who are seeking profitable investment Missoula's opportunities are unexcelled and her property will witness a large increase in value when springtime arrives.

OF COURSE DOGS CAN TALK. An Instance That Proves That There Is a

A curious sight was witnessed one after noon on the wharf at Cincinnati, says the Commercial Gazette. A gentleman, accompanied by two fine specimens of the water spaniel, went down to the landing of the Newport ferry, at the foot of Lawrence street. Somehow he became separated from the canines, or rather they had failed to follow him aboard. The boat had got out in the stream, when the dogs caught sight of their master and discovered that he was fast leaving them. Standing on the edge of the

THE PRESIDENT, BENJ. HARRISON,

and the-

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